DOCUMENT RESUME

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ABSTRACT

The spring 1999 student withdrawal survey was made available for approximately two weeks before the final withdrawal deadline to all students who formally dropped a class through the admissions office at either the North County or San Luis Obsipo campus of Cuesta College in California. A total of 438 useable surveys were collected. The identical survey was administered in the same manner to the same population during the spring 1998 semester, exactly one year earlier. The results of the spring 1999 withdrawal survey are, in general, nearly identical to those found one year ago. The clear majority of respondents again felt that they were prepared academically for the course(s) that they were dropping: 71.6 % in 1999 compared to 69.6% in 1998. Moreover, when queried as to whether Cuesta College could have done anything differently to help students complete courses, only 20.4% of respondents in 1999 (and 23.7% in 1998) answered in the affirmative. The remainder of this report analyzes the responses of those students who felt that Cuesta College could have done things differently in terms of facilitating student retention. The Spring Semester 1999 Drop Survey instrument is included in this report and asks questions regarding the need for more academic support, course choices, and financial support-funds. (VWC)

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ED 441 543

Student Withdrawal Survey

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April 1999

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Research Report No. 98/99-04

Matriculation and Research Services

JC 000 386

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Report Highlights

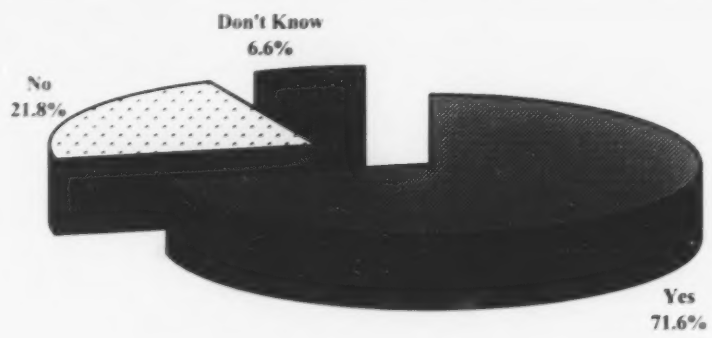
The Spring, 1999 withdrawal survey (which is included in this report on page 7) was made available for approximately two weeks before the final withdrawal deadline to all students who formally dropped a class through the admissions office at either the North County or San Luis Obsipo campus. A total of 438 useable surveys were collected. The identical survey was administered in the same manner to the same population during the Spring, 1998 semester-exactly one year earlier. The results of the Spring, 1999 withdrawal survey are, in general, nearly identical to those found one year ago. The clear majority of respondents again feel that they were prepared academically for the course(s) that they are dropping: 71.6 percent in 1999 compared to 69.6 percent in 1998. Moreover, when queried as to whether Cuesta could have done anything differently to help students complete courses, only 20.4 percent of respondents in 1999 (and 23.7 percent in 1998) answered in the affirmative.

The remainder of the report analyzes the responses of those students who felt that Cuesta could have done things differently in terms of facilitating student retention.

OVERVIEW QUESTIONS

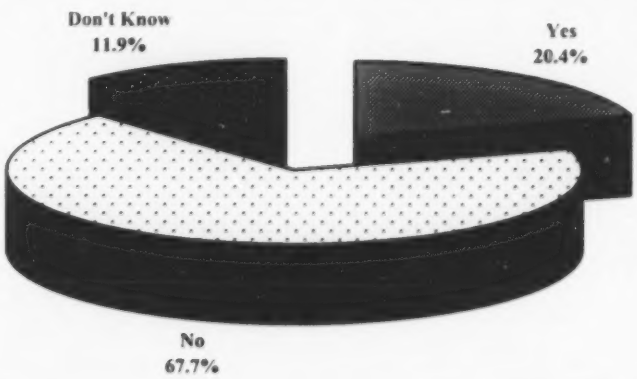
QUESTION 1	Response	N	%
Do you feel you were prepared academically for the course(s) you are dropping?	Yes	293	71.6%
	No	89	21.8%
	Don't Know	27	6.6%
	Subtotal of Responses	409	100.0%
	Non Responses	29	6.6%
	Total	438	100.0%

Question 1



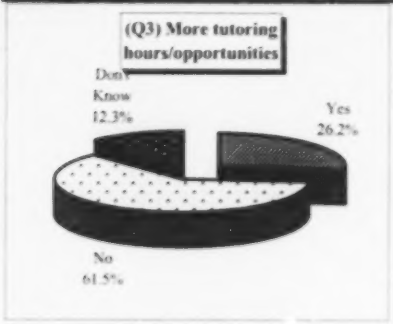
QUESTION 2	Response	N	%
Is there anything Cuesta College could have done differently to help you complete the course(s)?	Yes	84	20.4%
	No	279	67.7%
	Don't Know	49	11.9%
	Subtotal of Responses	412	100.0%
	Non Responses	26	5.9%
	Total	438	100.0%

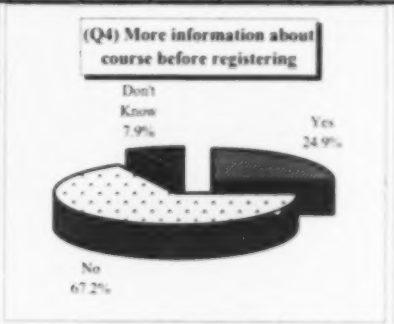
Question 2

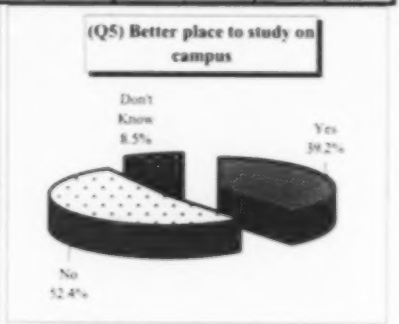


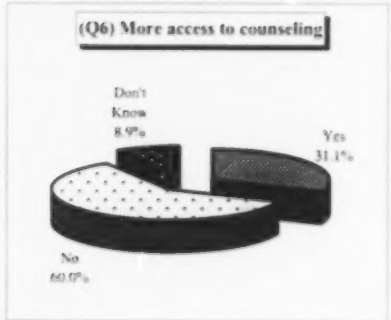
MORE ACADEMIC SUPPORT

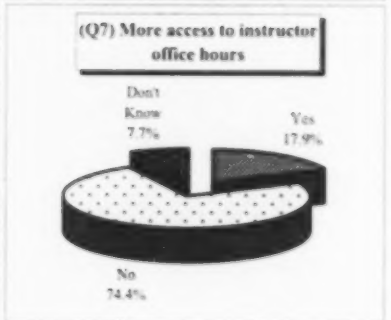
	Questions 3-9	Yes		No		Don't Know		Subtotal		No Response		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Q3	*More Turtoring hours/ opportunities*	76	37.6%	100	49.5%	26	12.9%	202	100%	236	53.9%	438	100%
Q4	*More Information about course before registering*	67	33.7%	118	59.3%	14	7.0%	199	100%	239	54.6%	438	100%
Q5	*Better place to study on campus*	35	17.9%	145	74.4%	15	7.7%	195	100%	243	55.5%	438	100%
Q6	*More access to counseling*	59	31.1%	114	60.0%	17	8.9%	190	100%	248	56.6%	438	100%
Q7	*More access to instructor office hours*	74	39.2%	99	52.4%	16	8.5%	189	100%	249	56.8%	438	100%
Q8	*Greater access to computers*	44	24.9%	119	67.2%	14	7.9%	177	100%	261	59.6%	438	100%
Q9	*Other**	17	26.2%	40	61.5%	8	12.3%	65	100%	373	85.2%	438	100%

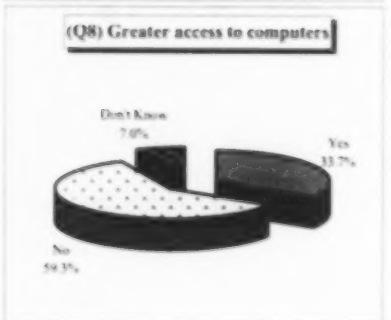












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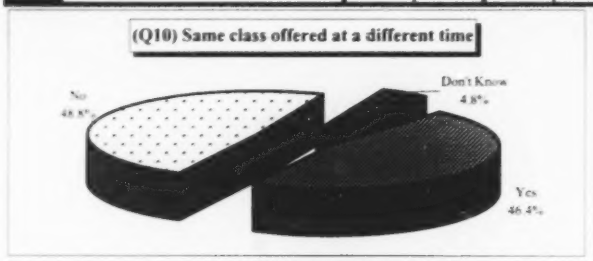
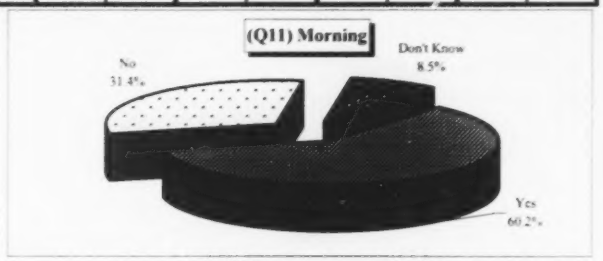
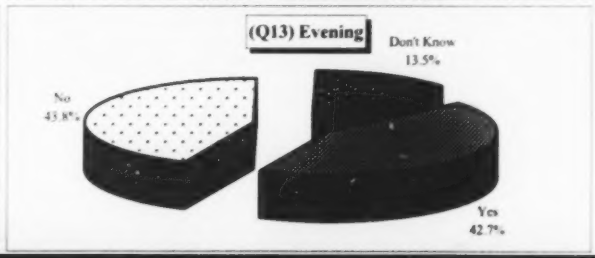
MORE COURSE CHOICES

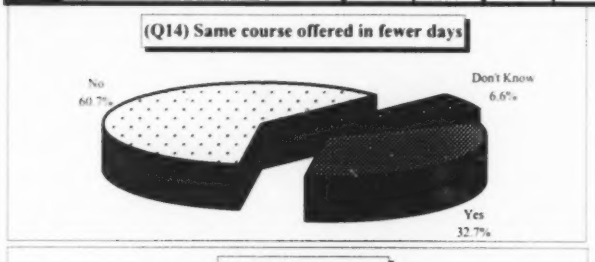
Questions 10-13		Yes		No		Don't Know		Subtotal		No Response		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Q10	*Same class offered at a different time*	116	46.4%	122	48.8%	12	4.8%	250	100%	188	42.9%	438	100%
Q11	*Morning*	71	60.2%	37	31.4%	10	8.5%	118	100%	320	73.1%	438	100%
Q12	*Afternoon*	60	60.0%	29	29.0%	11	11.0%	100	100%	338	77.2%	438	100%
Q13	*Evening*	38	42.7%	39	43.8%	12	13.5%	89	100%	349	79.7%	438	100%

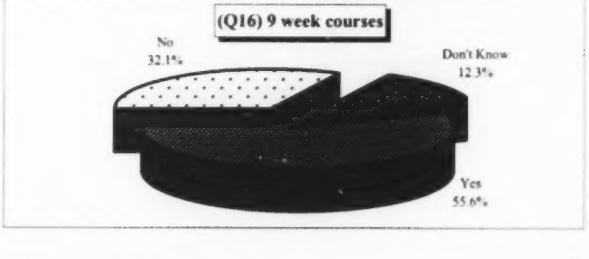


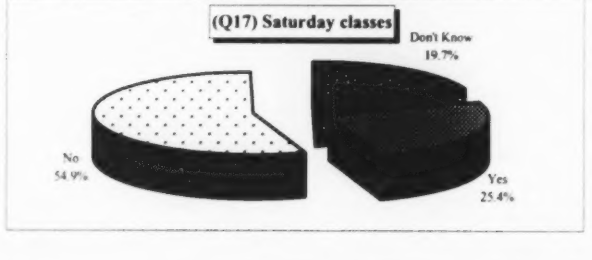




Questions 14-17		Yes		No		Don't Know		Subtotal		No Response		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Q14	*Same course covered in fewer days*	64	32.7%	119	60.7%	13	6.6%	196	100%	242	55.3%	438	100%
Q15	*6 week courses*	31	40.8%	32	42.1%	13	17.1%	76	100%	362	82.6%	438	100%
Q16	*9 week courses*	45	55.6%	26	32.1%	10	12.3%	81	100%	357	81.5%	438	100%
Q17	*Saturday classes*	18	25.4%	39	54.9%	14	19.7%	71	100%	367	83.8%	438	100%







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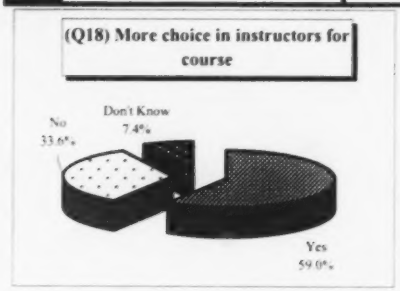
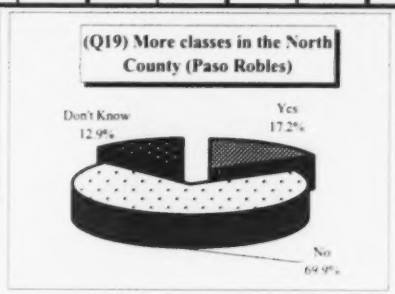
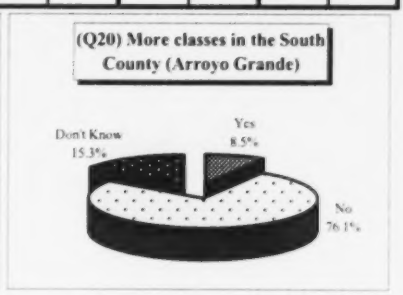
MORE COURSE CHOICES (Continued)

Questions 18-21		Yes		No		Don't Know		Subtotal		No Response		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Q18	*More choice in instructors for course*	128	59.0%	73	33.6%	16	7.4%	217	100%	221	50.5%	438	100%
Q19	*More classes in the North County (Paso Robles)*	32	17.2%	130	69.9%	24	12.9%	186	100%	252	57.5%	438	100%
Q20	*More Classes in the South County (Arroyo Grande)*	15	8.5%	134	76.1%	27	15.3%	176	100%	262	59.8%	438	100%
Q21	*Other**	5	8.5%	41	69.5%	13	22.0%	59	100%	379	86.5%	438	100%







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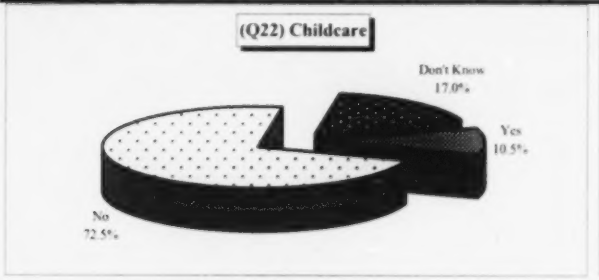
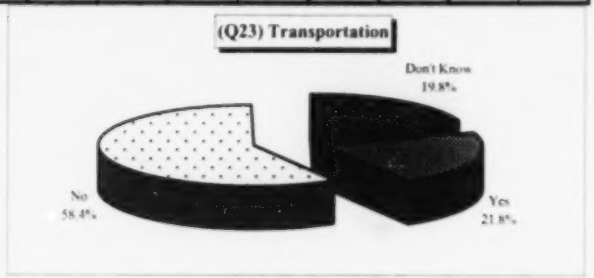
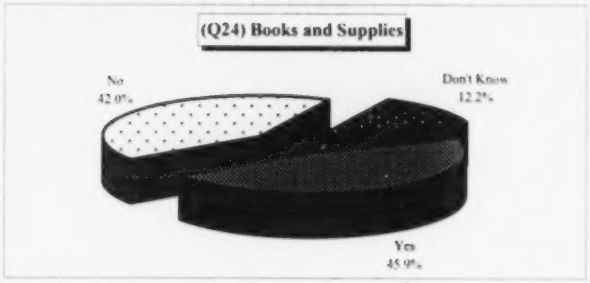
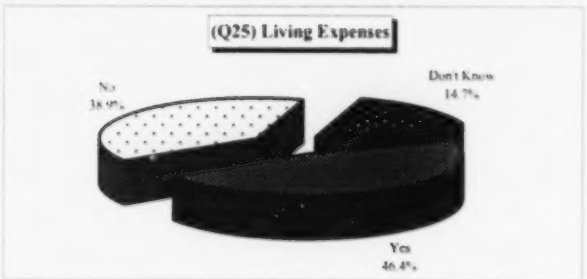
MORE FINANCIAL SUPPORT-FUNDS FOR:

Questions 22-25		Yes		No		Don't-Know		Subtotal		No Response		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Q22	***Childcare***	18	10.5%	124	72.5%	29	17.0%	171	100%	267	61.0%	438	100%
Q23	***Transportation***	43	21.8%	115	58.4%	39	19.8%	197	100%	241	55.0%	438	100%
Q24	***Books and Supplies***	94	45.9%	86	42.0%	25	12.2%	205	100%	233	53.2%	438	100%
Q25	***Living expenses***	98	46.4%	82	38.9%	31	14.7%	211	100%	227	51.8%	438	100%









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Spring Semester 1999 Drop Survey

Cuesta College is concerned about your success in our courses. Please help us by taking a few minutes to complete this survey.

For research purposes only, please provide us with your Social Security Number (optional):

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ *(All responses are treated confidentially)*

		Yes	No	Don't Know
1.	Do you feel you were prepared academically for the course(s) you are dropping?	☐	☐	☐
2.	Is there anything Cuesta College could have done differently to help you complete the course(s)?	☐	☐	☐

If you answered YES on question 2, please indicate below all the areas that apply:

MORE ACADEMIC SUPPORT

3.	More tutoring hours/opportunity	☐	☐	☐
4.	More information about course before registering	☐	☐	☐
5.	Better place to study on campus	☐	☐	☐
6.	More access to counseling	☐	☐	☐
7.	More access to instructor office hours	☐	☐	☐
8.	Greater access to computers	☐	☐	☐
9.	Other_____	☐	☐	☐

MORE COURSE CHOICES

10.	Same class offered at a different time	☐	☐	☐

If you answered yes to question 10, which of the following times would have been better:

11.	(a) Morning	☐	☐	☐
12.	(b) Afternoon	☐	☐	☐
13.	(c) Evening	☐	☐	☐
14.	Same course covered in fewer days	☐	☐	☐

If you answered yes to question 14, which of the following course lengths would have been better for you:

15.	(a) 6 week courses	☐	☐	☐
16.	(b) 9 week courses	☐	☐	☐
17.	(c) Weekend Classes (e.g., Friday evening, Saturday)	☐	☐	☐
18.	More choice in instructors for course	☐	☐	☐
19.	More classes at the North County Campus (Paso Robles)	☐	☐	☐
20.	More classes at the South County Center (Arroyo Grande High School)	☐	☐	☐
21.	Other_____	☐	☐	☐

MORE FINANCIAL SUPPORT- FUNDS FOR:

22.	Childcare	☐	☐	☐
23.	Transportation	☐	☐	☐
24.	Books and Supplies	☐	☐	☐
25.	Living expenses	☐	☐	☐

Thank you, your help will allow us to tailor Cuesta to your needs!

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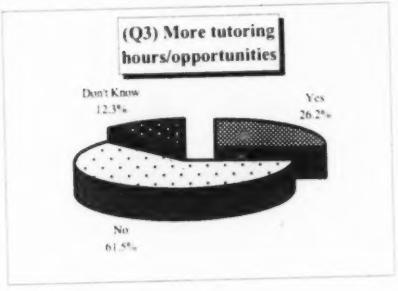
	Yes	No	Don't Know
Question 21	8.5%	69.5%	22.0%

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Question 20	8.5%	76.1%	15.3%

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Question 19	17.2%	69.9%	12.9%

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Question 18	59.0%	33.6%	7.4%



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